

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER Comptroller of Maryland (Democrat)

William Donald Schaefer - elected November 1998 as the 32nd Comptroller of Maryland - has served in public office for 45 years at both the State and local level. He was Governor of Maryland, 1987 to 1995; Mayor of Baltimore City, 1971 to 1987; President of the Baltimore City Council, 1967 to 1971; and a member of the Baltimore City Council, 1955 to 1967.

Comptroller Schaefer is a life-long Maryland resident, born in West Baltimore on November 2, 1921 to William Henry and Tululu Irene Schaefer. He was educated in Baltimore's public schools and graduated from Baltimore City College in 1939. Mr. Schaefer received his law degree in 1942.

Mr. Schaefer's legal career was put on hold by the U.S. entry into World War II. He joined the Army, achieved officer rank, and took charge of administering hospitals in England and Europe. Following his tour of duty, he remained in the U.S. Army Reserves and retired in 1979 with the rank of Colonel.

After the war, Comptroller Schaefer resumed his legal career, practicing real estate law. He earned a Master of Law degree in 1954 from the University of Baltimore School of Law and formed a general practice law firm with two colleagues. His concern for city planning and housing in the city propelled him to a seat on the Baltimore City Council in 1955.

In 1967, Mr. Schaefer ventured into citywide politics by running successfully for Baltimore City Council President. Four years later, he also ran successfully for Mayor, serving four consecutive terms until he was elected Governor in 1986.

Former Governor Schaefer currently holds the Schaefer Chair at the University of Maryland's School of Public Affairs in conjunction with the Johns Hopkins University Institute for Policy Studies. He is actively involved in a project to revitalize the Hampden area of Baltimore, working with interns from Hopkins. Before his election as Comptroller, Mr. Schaefer was Of Counsel at the law firm of Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander, LLC, in downtown Baltimore. In 1997, Governor Parris Glendening appointed Schaefer Chair of the Maryland Commission for Celebration 2000, the State's official agency to plan and implement an observance of the millennium.

Former Governor Schaefer also is involved with many civic and charitable organizations and is on the boards of several nonprofit organizations, as well as state and local colleges.

He is the recipient of 15 honorary degrees; President's Medal, Johns Hopkins University; Jefferson Award for Public Service by an elected official; the Vernon Eney Award, Maryland Bar Foundation; and the Distinguished Service Award, Democratic Party.